



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.



NOTICES FROM THE LICK OBSERVATORY.

PREPARED BY MEMBERS OF THE STAFF.

LARGE REFRACTOR FOR THE POTSDAM OBSERVATORY.

The dimensions of the new refracting telescope for the Potsdam Observatory are understood to be as follows:

Aperture of the photographic objective, 80 *cm* = 31.5 inches.

Aperture of the guiding telescope objective, 50 *cm* = 19.7 inches.

Length of the tube, 12 — 13 *metres* = 39 — 43 feet.

Diameter of the Dome, about 69 feet.

The Dome is to have a fixed floor.

E. S. H.

BRIGHT METEOR SEEN AT OAKLAND, AUGUST 18, 1896.

[Extract from a letter of Mr. ALLEN H. BABCOCK.]

“Last evening, August 18th, at 7:55 P.M., I saw a very bright meteor break or burn up directly below *Cassiopea*. The time is within a half-minute I think. I saw it first just above the “chair”

—it passed through the constellation about so—



and at about the head of the arrow it seemed to break up; but the light was so bright that it gave the impression of a sudden enlargement, rather than a breaking up. It disappeared almost immediately after the flare-up, and left a trail which disappeared so quickly that I am not sure whether it was a trail, or the result of the intense light in my own eyes. I did not hear any report.”

THE *PERSEIDS* IN AUGUST, 1896.

Although the forerunners of this shower were not very numerous, it was thought advisable to try a photograph of the radiant on the night of August 10th. Therefore a plate was exposed with the CROCKER photographic telescope, using *Eta*.

Persei as a guiding star. The plate was exposed from 11^h 38^m to 14^h 49^m. Only one meteor trail is shown, and that one is faint, about one-half degree long. The position of the center of the trail is approximately $\alpha = 2^{\text{h}} 59.7^{\text{m}}$, $\delta = + 51^{\circ} 10'$. The time of the meteor's appearance was 11^h 57^m 43^s. Several other meteors were timed, some of which were within the field of the plate, but were too faint to leave any trace. This shower seems to have steadily diminished since its maximum in 1894, as there have certainly been fewer this year than in 1895.

A. L. COLTON AND C. D. PERRINE.

MT. HAMILTON, August 23, 1896.

PARTIAL LUNAR ECLIPSE OF AUGUST 22, 1896.

Light clouds interfered somewhat about the time of second contact, but cleared away soon after and remained clear to the end. The first darkening certainly detected was at 8^h 35^m. The Moon entered shadow at 9^h 23^m 31^s, and left the shadow at 12^h 31^m 50^s P. S. T. The obscured part of the disc was quite bright, the more prominent markings being easily visible. The Earth's shadow was a bright copper color near the center and shaded to a greenish tinge at the edges. The penumbra showed a light pink color.

C. D. PERRINE.

MT. HAMILTON, August 23, 1896.

ASTEROID No. 341 = CALIFORNIA.

Professor MAX WOLF, Director of the Astrophysical Observatory of Heidelberg, has discovered many asteroids, among them No. 341 on September 25, 1892. Wishing to commemorate his visit to our State in 1893, and perhaps desiring to enter a good-humored protest against an article on the Nomenclature of the Asteroids in these *Publications*, Volume VIII, page 28, he has named this planet *California*. Californians will be glad to acknowledge the courtesy of this baptism.

E. S. H.

GIFT OF A PLANE-MIRROR OF SPECULUM METAL TO THE
LICK OBSERVATORY BY THE DAUGHTERS OF THE
LATE WILLIAM LASSELL, F. R. S.

Through the kindness of the daughters of the late WILLIAM LASSELL, F. R. S., the Lick Observatory is now the possessor of the plane speculum-metal mirror "A" used at Malta with the four-foot reflector. The mirror is oval, about five by seven